



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING  
P.O. Box 40970, Olympia, Washington 98504-0970  
360.725.4665 • FAX 360. 413.3482

June 2, 2008

Subject: Facilities Licensing Compliance Agreements

Dear Licensed Child Care Providers and DEL Licensing Staff:

I am writing you this message jointly as it was brought to my attention that some licensed child care providers across the state may not have been encouraged to write comments on facilities licensing compliance agreements or check the "supervisory review" box on those forms. While the Department of Early Learning (DEL) strives to be transparent and inclusive, holding public forums and posting compliance agreements online, we need to work together to do more for Washington's children and families.

For DEL licensing staff:

I am directing you to ensure that each time a compliance agreement is developed with a licensed child care provider, you genuinely encourage and welcome that provider to add her/his comments and, if he/she wishes to have a review conducted, check the box requesting a supervisory review of the compliance agreement. A DEL policy to this effect will be disseminated to you within the week by Quality Division Assistant Director Larry Horne, and your upcoming practice call must touch upon this expectation. Thank you! I know you will undertake this increased collaboration on compliance agreements with professionalism and positivity.

For licensed child care providers:

I want you to know that at DEL we *welcome* you to write your comments on the compliance agreements and that we appreciate all the hard work you do to make a difference in children's lives. My senior leaders within DEL, Larry Horne and the service area managers, Karri Livingston, Joshua Verville and Bob McLellan, will be offering their time to have quarterly meetings beginning in September with you to discuss issues, successes, and possible improvement. Thank you for sharing your input through these compliance agreements!

DEL has a new quality improvement plan and fortunately, the Governor and Legislature authorized five new staff positions to begin building a continuous improvement system for child care licensing. One of the first steps will be to work together, DEL staff and licensed child care providers, to develop and finalize a licensed care provider "rights and responsibilities" handbook. And, DEL is having a training curriculum designed to support our licensors in doing the best job possible working with you to ensure children are safe and healthy and their parents

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learn about the quality of care you are providing beyond the licensing complaints or compliance agreements.

This letter is going out today via email and hard copy mail; it will be posted on the DEL Web site as well ([www.del.wa.gov](http://www.del.wa.gov)). Translation will be made available as soon as possible.

Thank you all for working to ensure children are safe and healthy in Washington child care settings! If you have questions regarding the expectations in this letter, please contact us at [qualityimprovement@DEL.wa.gov](mailto:qualityimprovement@DEL.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jone M. Bosworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "B".

Jone M. Bosworth  
Director